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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| 10/660,731 | 09/12/2003 | In Hee Han | 9988.056.00-US | 4916 |
| 30827 | 7590 | 10/18/2006 | | |
| MCKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP 1900 K STREET, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20006 | | | | |
| | | | EXAMINER LU, JIPING | |
| | | | ART UNIT 3749 | PAPER NUMBER |

DATE MAILED: 10/18/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/660,731 | HAN, IN HEE | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Jiping Lu | 3749 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 August 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,7 and 15-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3,7 and 15-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Status

1. Claims 1-3, 7, 15-17 are pending in the case. Claims 4-6, 8-14 and 18-20 have been canceled.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 7/27/2006 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

4. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Anetsberger (U. S. Pat. 3,217,704).

Anetsberger shows a dryer 24 (capable for clothes drying) comprising: cabinet 24, a mixing pipe 49 having an inlet 52 disposed in the cabinet 24 for mixing air and gas, and a hole 23 configured to allow the air to directly flow into the mixing pipe 49 from outside the dryer which are arranged same as claimed. The hole 23 is provided at a bottom portion 11 of the dryer

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24 and in front of and adjacent only to inlet 52 of the mixing pipe 49. The hole 23 is positioned such that the air flows through the holes and it focused in a region immediately surrounding the mixing pipe 49, wherein the air mixes with gas supply to enhance combustion efficiency.

5. Claims 7 and 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ros (GB 2,090,398).

Ros shows a dryer 1 (capable for clothes drying) comprising: cabinet 2, a mixing pipe (not numbered, see Fig. 1, within 3) having an inlet disposed in the cabinet 2 and one or more holes 20 configured to allow the air to directly flow into the mixing pipe from outside the dryer same as claimed. The one or more holes 20 are provided at a bottom portion 18 of the dryer 1 and in front of and adjacent only to inlet of the mixing pipe. The holes 20 are positioned such that the air flows through the holes and it focused in a region immediately surrounding the mixing pipe wherein the air mixes with gas supply to enhance combustion efficiency. The holes 20 are formed at regular intervals in left and right directions along the bottom portion of the dryer and are formed in a long hole form having length in a front and rear direction along the bottom portion of the dryer (see Fig. 9).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

7. Claims 1-3, 7, 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fig. 3 of applicant's admitted prior art in view of Ros (GB 2,090,398 A)

Fig. 3 of applicant's admitted prior art shows a clothes dryer same as claimed except for a plurality of air holes in a bottom of a base adjacent only an inlet side of a mixing pipe. Ros teaches a heater with a plurality of air holes 20 in a bottom of a base 18 adjacent only an inlet side of a mixing pipe (not numbered, see Fig. 1). The holes 20 are positioned such that the air flows through the holes and is focused in a region immediately surrounding the mixing pipe. The holes 20 are formed at regular intervals in left and right directions along the bottom portion of the dryer and are formed in a long hole form having length in a front and rear direction along the bottom portion of the dryer (see Fig. 9). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the bottom of the base of the clothes dryer of Fig. 3 of applicant's admitted prior art with a plurality of air holes as taught by Ros in order to improve the combustion efficiency.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.


Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jiping Lu whose telephone number is 571 272 4878. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, EHUD GARTENBERG can be reached on 571 272-4828. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Jiping Lu
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3749

J. E.